Hugo's Indian Inhabitants

Ritchie's Indian Trail

Native inhabitants date back as far as 10,000 years ago in the Hugo area.¹⁻² The Takelma Indians, or commonly named the Rogue River Indians, lived in semi-permanent villages during the winter, and then broke up into smaller bands during fall, spring and summer to hunt, fish and gather in the neighboring foothills. During their time away from their village, they lived in temporary camps in brush houses.



Takelma Pit House Replica At the Kerbyville Museum: 2003 Courtesy of Karen Rose

1. Rose, Karen. May 25, 2002. *Takelma Indians: An Essay on Native Americans in the Rogue River Area*. Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society.

http://jeffnet.org/~hugo/takelma.htm. Hugo, OR.

2. Hugo Neighborhood Association. 2007. *Hugo's Primary Indian Trail*. Brochure. Hugo, OR.

3. Pullen, Reg. 1996. Overview of the Environment of Native Inhabitants of Southwestern Oregon, Late Prehistoric Era, BLM, Medford District Office. Page 6 of Appendix I.

4. Hugo Neighborhood Association. 2005. *Hugo Applegate Field Notes*. Brochure 10. Hugo, OR.

5. Hugo Neighborhood Association. 2005. Hugo's Indian Trail. Hugo, OR.

Takelma band at Jump Off Joe Creek The

Takelma band at Jump Off Joe Creek consisted of 14 men, 27 women and 19 children as stated by Samuel Culver's report to Joel Palmer on July 20, 1855, 33rd Congress, 2nd session. Samuel Culver was an Indian agent in this area and Joel Palmer was Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Oregon Territory.³

Pestles vary in the amount of modification they bear – some are natural cobbles modified by use at one end, others are shaped all over. The diagnostic criterion is the flattening of one end due to the pounding action in a mortar. Mortars are grinding stones with deep circular concavities, designed to be used with pestles.



Mortar & Pestle

Mortars tend to be made of the harder materials such as granite or basalt.

GLO The General Land Office maps for T.34S., R.6W. and T.35S., R.6W., Willamette Meridian document a main Indian trail in Hugo, Oregon along Bummer Creek orientated southwest to northeast from the Applegate Trail in the north to Jump-off Joe Creek in the south. This trail connects with another primary Indian Trail at the confluence of Jump-off Joe Creek with the Rogue River.^{2, 4-5}

General Land Office (GLO) Survey Notes For Bummer Creek Indian Trail

Ritchie's Indian Trail Mary Ellen (Ritchie) Fitzpatrick's folks, Harvey Whitaker and Margaret Mary Ritchie, came to Hugo in 1910. Her family stayed with the Petersons for awhile until they moved into the Holgate house. Mary was born October 30, 1912 in Medford, Oregon. At the time her folks were living on their homestead off the Ahern Road within a mile of downtown Hugo, Oregon.⁶

Wayne McKy had spoken with old-timer, Mary Ellen Ritchie Fitzpatrick, the summer of 1999. She told Wayne there was an Indian trail that went through the Ritchie property. She took Wayne and showed him the beginning of the trail. It went over the hill to what is called Leland now. It was a trail that the Indians used to go over the hill to fish Grave Creek. This bunch of Indians used Bummer Creek and fished Grave Creek. The other bunch of Indians agreed to not use that trail to fish Grave Creek, but they would fish Jumpoff Joe Creek. Later in the 1910s, the Ritchies and other neighbors, used the Indian trail for years whenever they wanted to go over the hill to Leland. The saddle of Grave Creek Hills that they traveled through became known as Ritchie's Gap.⁷ The Ritchie Indian Trail connected to the main Indian Trail in Hugo as recorded by the GLO.

Want more information? Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood* on how you can become involved in your community history and land use.

^{6.} Interview of Mary Ellen (Ritchie) Fitzpatrick by Mike Walker. 1999. Hugo, OR.

^{7.} Interview of Mary Ellen (Ritchie) Fitzpatrick by Wayne McKy. Summer of 1999. Hugo, OR.

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's Mission

This information brochure is one of a series of documents published by the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (*Hugo Neighborhood*). It is designed to be shared with neighbors for the purpose of helping protect our rural quality of life by promoting an informed citizenry in decisionmaking. The *Hugo Neighborhood* is an informal nonprofit charitable and educational organization with a land use and history mission of promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhood's* land use mission is to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and to preserve, protect, and enhance the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, if requested, as a technical resource assisting neighbors to represent themselves.

Its history mission is to educate, collect, preserve, interpret, and research its local history and to encourage public interest in the history of the Hugo area.

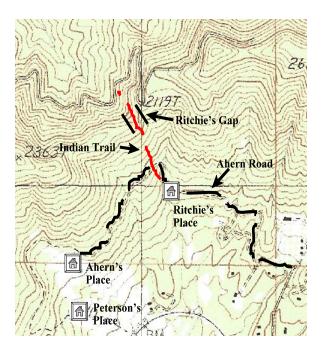
Volunteer membership dues are \$10.00 annually per family and normally used for paper, ink, envelopes, publications and mailings. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

Email: hugo@jeffnet.org Web Page: http://www.hugoneighborhood.org/ Edited by Karen Rose, Wayne McKy, & Mike Walker Brochure 4A in Hugo's Trails Brochure Series HNAHS - 2010 Trail 4 C:Documents and Settings/mikelMy Documents/Genealogy/History_Brochures/Trails/BROCHURE_4A_Indian Trail Ritchie 122807.wpd

RITCHIE'S INDIAN TRAIL: HUGO, OR

Brochure 4A Of Hugo's Trails Brochure Series





Ritchie's Gap & Indian Trail: 1910s

November 30, 2007

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society

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